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(iii) labeling the cells of the sample obtained in (ii) with antibodies specific for HLA-G membrane-bound and soluble isoforms, and

(iv) establishing the HLA-G expression profile of said sample by detecting the labelled cells.

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3. (Amended) A method for establishing the HLA-G expression profile of a solid tumour with a view to selecting a treatment which is suited to said tumour or with a view to monitoring the evolution of said tumour, comprising:

(i) removing a tumour sample,

(ii) optionally, labeling the cells of said sample,

(iii) lysing the cells,

(iv) contacting the lysed cells with various antibodies directed against the class I HLA antigens so as to possibly form HLA-G isoform/antibody complexes, and

(v) establishing the HLA-G expression profile of said sample by detecting the complexes formed in step (iv).

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CONT

Please add the following claims:

14. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein subsequent to the labeling in (iii) the cells are immunoprecipitated.

15. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the detecting in (iv) comprises electrophoresis and transfer to a membrane.

16. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the antibodies specific for HLA-G membrane-bound and soluble isoforms are monoclonal antibodies.

17. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the HLA-G membrane-bound isoforms are HLA-G1, HLA-G2, HLA-G3 and HLA-G4.

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18. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the HLA-G soluble isoforms are HLA-G5 and HLA-G6.

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19. (New) The method of Claim 3, wherein subsequent to the contacting in (iv) the cells are immunoprecipitated.

20. (New) The method of Claim 3, wherein the detecting in (v) comprises electrophoresis and transfer to a membrane.

21. (New) The method of Claim 3, wherein the antibodies specific for HLA-G membrane-bound and soluble isoforms are monoclonal antibodies.

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cont
22. (New) The method of Claim 3, wherein the HLA-G membrane-bound isoforms are HLA-G1, HLA-G2, HLA-G3 and HLA-G4.

23. (New) The method of Claim 3, wherein the HLA-G soluble isoforms are HLA-G5 and HLA-G6.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are active in the present application. Claims 2, 3 and 14-23 are drawn to the elected subject matter. Claims 2 and 3 are amended for clarity. Support for Claims 14-23 is found in Claims 2 and 3, and the specification as originally filed. The specification is amended to insert section headings, position the "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" into the appropriate location, and to insert sequence identifiers (SEQ ID NO:) for the sequences disclosed in the specification.

In accordance with MPEP §609 Applicants request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report, said request initially made on August 21, 2000 as evidenced by the enclosed request, International Search Report and date-stamped filing receipt. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants enclose